

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared ~~Infrared~~ drier installation for a passing web, comprising: [[,]]

~~which installation has~~ gas-heated infrared radiant elements~~[[,]]~~ arranged next to one another ~~next to the other~~ so as to form a unit, wherein the installation is configured to heat the web without contacting the web with a heated surface, and

    said unit comprising at least two adjacent rows of gas-heated infrared radiant elements stretching out in the transversal direction of the web substantially over an ~~[[the]]~~ entire width of the web,

wherein said infrared drier installation comprises a recycling device configured ~~[[means]]~~ to recycle, at least partially, ~~the said~~ combustion gases, wherein said infrared drier installation comprises a device configured ~~[[means]]~~ to avoid ~~[[the]]~~ suction of cold air between two adjacent rows of radiant elements.

2. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared ~~Drier~~ [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein said device configured ~~[[means]]~~ to avoid the suction of cold air between the two adjacent rows of radiant elements is a sealing gasket.

3. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared ~~Drier~~ [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein said drier installation comprises devices that form an insulating thermal arc extending stretching out to a vicinity the neighbourhood of a ~~[[the]]~~ backside of the radiant elements.

4. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared ~~Drier~~ [[Drier]] installation according to claim 3, wherein said devices ~~[[means]]~~ that form an insulating thermal arc have peripheral walls stretching out to ~~[[the]]~~ a vicinity neighbourhood of the web, at least along ~~[[the]]~~ lateral edges and an ~~[[the]]~~ upstream transversal edge of the unit ~~[[set]]~~ of radiant elements.

5. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein each radiant element has first detachable connecting devices configured adapted to cooperate with second detachable complementary connecting devices coupled by at least one fixed pipe supplying gas, combustion air or a mixture of gas and air,[[;]] wherein the first and second detachable connecting connection devices are connected by, said detachable connection are for part of a quick connect coupling.

6. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 5, wherein the first and the second connecting connection devices are designed so as to oppose a preset maximal resistance and to yield, in a reproducible way, to a load force that exceeds this maximal resistance.

7. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 5, wherein said drier installation has for each row of radiant elements a corresponding gas tube, which has, for each radiant element, a fixed pipe configured to supply that supplies gas to the said radiant element, and wherein each radiant element has on its backside a back tubing configured to supply supplying a mixture of gas and air and gas that is adapted to be directly coupled in a detachable and tight way with a [[the]] corresponding fixed gas pipe, wherein in which the fixed pipe or the back tubing has an air inlet opening that communicates with an [[the]] air tube to provide [[form]] the mixture of gas and air and gas.

8. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 7, wherein for each row of radiant elements, a combustion air supply tube is placed between the radiant elements and the corresponding gas tube, [[and]]

wherein for each radiant element, the combustion air tube has opposite openings respectively made in two opposite regions of a [[the]] wall of the air tube:[[,]] a first opening that is made in a first region adjacent to the radiant element, and a second opening that is made in a second region adjacent to the gas tube, [[and]]

wherein through each of the first and second openings passes the corresponding fixed pipe or a [[the]] corresponding back tubing.

9. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 8, wherein for each radiant element, the corresponding fixed pipe passes in a tight way through the second opening, wherein the second opening is formed [[made]] in the second region in [[of]] the wall of the ~~combustion~~ air tube adjacent to the [[said]] gas tube, [[and]] wherein the corresponding back tubing supplying the mixture of gas and air and gas passes through the first opening, wherein the first opening is formed [[made]] in the first region in [[of]] the wall of the air tube adjacent to the said radiant element, and includes [[has]] the air inlet opening that ends inside the air tube to form the mixture of gas and air and gas.

10. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 9, wherein the back tubing of each radiant element has at its front end ~~an organ constituting the~~ a gas injector connected to the back tubing.

11. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein said drier installation has first collection devices configured to collect downstream of the radiant elements at least a part of the [[warm]] combustion gases produced by the said radiant elements, and first blowing devices configured to blow on the passing web, downstream the first collection devices, a gaseous mixture that is warmed [[up]] by the combustion ~~these warm~~ gases.

12. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 11, wherein said drier installation has several ventilators, arranged in accordance to a row stretching out in a [[the]] transversal direction of the passing web, wherein in which each ventilator is connected to collection hoods and to blowing hoods, respectively, which cover at least ~~covering~~ a part of a [[the]] width of the passing web.

13. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 12 [[1]], wherein each ventilator is located situated above the said collection and blowing hoods, and adjacent to [[the]] corresponding radiant elements, in relation to the said hoods.

14. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 11, wherein an insulating thermal arc is located between the radiant elements and the first ~~combustion~~ ~~gas collection devices~~ [[means]].

15. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein each radiant element comprises ~~comprise~~ a locking device configured to lock said radiant element in a [[its]] working position.

16. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein each radiant element comprises an insulating device configured ~~comprise~~ ~~means~~ to insulate the [[warm]] combustion gases from a [[the]] backside of the [[said]] radiant element.

17. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 3, wherein each radiant element is enveloped in a peripheral jacket that extends ~~stretching~~ ~~out~~ from a [[the]] front side of the [[said]] radiant element towards a [[the]] back to a [[the]] surface of the insulating thermal arc that faces ~~facing~~ the passing web.

18. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein each radiant element, or a peripheral jacket enveloping each radiant element, has ~~at least a has one~~ bulge configured ~~adapted~~ to rest on an adjacent radiant element, or on an adjacent peripheral jacket, to prevent ~~avoid all possibilities of~~ pivoting of the radiant element around an [[the]] axis of a fixed pipe.

19. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein said drier installation comprises a device configured [[means]] to limit infiltration of cold air infiltration between the passing web [[strip]] and the radiant elements.

20. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 19, wherein said device configured [[means]] to limit infiltration of cold air infiltration

between the passing web [[strip]] and the radiant elements comprises a cold air blowing device installed above a ~~upwards~~ the first row [[rows]] of radiant elements configured to blow ~~for blowing~~ air slightly in a direction opposite to a [[the]] moving direction of the web.